

THE SCIENTIFIC ORDERS OF THE "CHALLENGER"*

II.

II. Chemical Observations

SAMPLES of sea-water should be collected for chemical analysis at the surface and at various depths, and in various conditions. Each sample should be placed in a Winchester quart glass-stoppered bottle, the stopper being tied down with tape and sealed in such a manner that the contents cannot be tampered with.

2. Portions of the same samples should be, immediately after their collection, boiled *in vacuo*, the gases collected, their volume determined as accurately as may be, and a portion, not less than one cubic inch, hermetically sealed in a glass tube, to be sent home at any time for complete analysis.

3. Frequent samples of sea-water taken at the surface, and others taken beneath as opportunity offers, should have determinations of chlorine made upon them at once or as soon as convenient.

This operation could easily be carried on in any but very heavy weather. On the other hand, it is not thought that any trustworthy analyses of gases could be made on board ship, unless in harbour or in the calmest weather.

4. Such samples of the sea-bottom as are brought up should be carefully dried and preserved for examination and analysis.

5. The gas contained in the swimming-bladders of fishes caught near the surface and at different depths should be preserved for analysis. In each case the species, sex, and size, and especially the depth at which the fish was caught, should be stated.

III. Botanical Observations

The duties of a botanist in travelling are twofold, and in the case of the voyage of circumnavigation about to be undertaken by H.M.S. *Challenger* they are of equal importance.

Of these, the one refers to forming complete collections of the plants of all interesting localities, and especially of the individual islands of oceanic groups.

The other, to making observations upon life, history, and structure in the case of plants where special knowledge is concerned.

In the first of these the botanist must necessarily be largely helped by the assistance to be obtained on board ship from the officers and crew, working under his guidance and close supervision. When time and opportunity are wanting for making complete collections, preference should be given to the phanerogamous vegetation.

In the second he will have to depend upon his own resources, and will therefore require that the mere process of collection does not make too great demands upon his time, although in itself exceedingly important, and by no means to be neglected.

The general directions for travellers, printed in the Admiralty Manual of Scientific Inquiry, will of course be kept in view.

Especial stress must, however, be laid upon the necessity of obtaining information about the vegetation of oceanic islands. These are, in many cases, the last positions held by floras of great antiquity; and, as in the case of St. Helena, they are liable to speedily become exterminated, and therefore to pass into irremediable oblivion when the islands become occupied.

Of many that lie not far from the usual tracks of ships, absolutely nothing is known, whilst of the flora of a vast majority we possess most imperfect materials. The following are especially worth exploring; and to the list is added an indication of the least explored coast lines of the great continents. As far as possible complete dried collections should be made, not only of each group, but of each islet of the group; for it is usually the case that the floras of contiguous oceanic islets are wonderfully different. Of those in italics the vegetation is absolutely unknown, or all but so.

1. ATLANTIC OCEAN. Cape de Verd, Tristan d'Acunha *Fernando Noronha*, *Trinidad* and *Martin Vaz* (off the Brazil coast), *Diego Ramirez*, S. Georgia. The African coast between Morocco and Senegal, the Gaboon, and Damara Land offer the most novel fields. On the American coast, Cayenne, Bahia to Cape Frio, Patagonia.

2. WEST INDIES. The Bahamas and St. Domingo and the Antilles have been very imperfectly explored except Dominica,

Trinidad, and Martinique. On the mainland, Honduras, Nicaragua, and the coast region of Mexico, the Mosquito shores, and Guatemala offer rich fields for botanical research.

3. INDIAN OCEAN. The Seychelles, *Ammirantes*, Madagascar, Bourbon, *Socotra*, St. Paul's, and Amsterdam Islands, *Prince Edward's*, the *Crozet*s and *Marion* groups. Of the E. African coast to the north of Natal no part is well explored, and the greater part is utterly unknown botanically.

4. PACIFIC OCEAN. (1.) N. TEMPERATE. Collections are wanted from N. Japan and the Kuriles and Aleutian Islands. (2.) TROPICAL. Considerable collections have been made only in the Sandwich Islands, Fiti Islands, Tahiti, and New Caledonia; from all of which more are much wanted. The Marquesas, New Hebrides, *Marshall's*, Solomon's and *Caroline's*, together with all the smaller groups, are still less known. Of the American continent, the Californian peninsula, Mexico, and the whole coast from Lima to Valparaiso, are but imperfectly known. Of the small islands off the coast, Juan Fernandez and the Galapagos alone have been partially botanised. 3. S. TEMPERATE. Juan Fernandez, *Masafuera*, St. Felix, and Amboise, *Pitcairn*, *Bounty*, *Antipodes*, *Emerald*, *Macquarie* Islands.

5. INDIAN ARCHIPELAGO. Java alone is explored, and the Philippines very partially; collections are especially wanted from all the islands east of Java to the Louisiade and Solomon Archipelagos, especially Lombok and New Guinea. Siam, Cochín China, and the whole Chinese sea-board want exploration.

6. AUSTRALIA. All the tropical coasts are very partially explored.

Photographs or careful drawings of tropical vegetation often convey interesting information, and should contain some reference to a scale of dimensions.

An inquiry of much importance, for which the present expedition affords a favourable opportunity, is that into the vitality of seeds exposed to the action of sea-water.

Observations should especially be made on the fruits and seeds of those plants which have become widely distributed throughout the tropical regions of the world, apparently without the intervention of man; but further observations on other plants of different natural orders may be of great value with reference to questions of geographical distribution.

The following instructions have been drawn up for the botanical collectors as to objects of special attention at particular places:—

Porto Rico.—In collecting, distinguish the plants of the Savannahs from those of the mountains, which, if possible, should be ascended. The palms and tree-ferns are quite unknown; marine algae also are wanted.

Cape de Verdes.—Make for the highest peaks, where the vegetation is peculiar, and analogous to that of Madeira and the Canaries.

Fernando de Noronha.—Land if possible. Very remarkable plants are said to occur, different from those of Brazil.

Trinidad.—A complete collection is required. A tree-fern exists, but the species is unknown.

Prince Edward's Island and *Crozet*s.—Two spots more interesting for the exploration of their vegetation do not exist upon the face of the globe. Every effort should be made to make a complete collection.

Kerguelen's Land.—A thorough exploration should be made, and the cryptogamic plants and algae diligently collected. The Antarctic Expedition was only there in midwinter; flowering specimens of *Pringlea* are wanted.

Auckland and *Campbell Islands*.—The floras should be well explored.

South Pacific and *Indian Oceans*.—Attend to general instructions, more especially as regards palms and large monocotyledons generally. Marine algae are said to be scarce, and should be looked for all the more diligently. In the North Pacific, south temperate algae are said to prevail.

Aleutian Islands.—Collections are particularly wanted.

Every effort should be made to land on islands between lat. 30° N. and 30° S. along the marked track (between Vancouver Island and Valparaiso), so as to connect the vegetation of the American continent with the traces of it that exist in the Sandwich Islands.

Straits of Magellan.—Cryptogams are abundant, but very partially explored.

The following additional notes have been drawn up for the

* Continued from p. 193.

more especial guidance of the botanists of the circumnavigation :—

Phanerogams.—1. Fleshy parasitic plants (*Balanophora*, *Rafflesia*, &c.) are little suitable for dissection and examination unless preserved in spirit, and the same remark applies to fleshy flowers and inflorescences generally. Dried specimens, however, are not without their value, and should always be obtained as well.

2. The stems of scandent and climbing plants are often very anomalous in their structure. Short portions of such stems should be collected when the cross section is in any way remarkable, with the foliage, flowers, and fruit when possible. A few leaves and flowers should also be tied up between two pieces of card, and attached at once to the specimens of the stem, so as to ensure future identification.

3. Attention should be given to the esculent and medicinal substances used in various places. Specimens should be obtained, and whenever possible, they should be accompanied by complete specimens of the plants from which such substances are obtained.

4. The common weeds and ruderal plants growing about ports or landing-places should not be overlooked, and, as far as practicable, trustworthy information should be recorded as to the date and circumstances of the introduction of foreign species.

5. The distribution of marine Phanerogamic plants (*Zostera*, *Cymodocea*, &c.) should also be noted, and specimens preserved with their latitude and longitude. Their buds and parts of fructification should be put into spirit.

6. The flowers of *Loranthaceæ* and *Santalaceæ* should be preserved in spirit, and also dried to exhibit general habit.

7. The inflorescence of Aroids should be dissected when fresh, or put into spirit. Note the placentation and position of the ovules.

8. Devote especial attention to the study of Screw-Pines and Palms when opportunity arises, even if necessary to the neglect of other things. The general habit of the plants should be sketched; the male and female inflorescence should be preserved, and also the fruit; the foliage should be dried and folded, and packed in boxes. Many fleshy vegetable objects may be "killed" by a longer or shorter immersion in spirit. They then dry up without decaying, and form useful specimens.

9. With respect to Palms, further note the height, position of the spadix, and preponderance of the sexes in both monœcious and dioecious species, also form and dimensions of leaves.

10. Surface-drifting should be examined, and any seeds or fragments of land-plants carefully noted when determinable, with directions of currents and latitude and longitude.

11. Facts are also required as to the part played by icebergs in plant-distribution. If any opportunity occurs for their examination, it would be desirable to preserve and note any vegetable material which might be found upon their surface; also to examine any rock-fragments for lichens.

12. *Ferns*.—Ferns should always, when possible, be obtained with fructification. In the case of tree-ferns, our knowledge of which, from the imperfection of material for description, is very defective, a portion of the stem sufficient to illustrate its structure should be obtained, with notes of its height; a fragment of a frond (between pieces of card) and the base of a stipe should be tied to the specimen of the stem; also a note as to whether the adventitious roots were living or dead.

The number of fronds should be counted, their dimensions taken, and the basal scales carefully preserved.

Note if tree-ferns are ever attacked by insects or fungi, and whether they form the food of any class of animals.

13. *Mosses*, &c.—Many mosses are aquatic. In the case of dioecious species of mosses, plants of both sexes should be, when possible, secured.

14. Aquatic species of *Ricciaceæ* should be looked for. Minute *Jugermanniaceæ* are found on the foliage of other plants.

15. *Podostemaceæ* are found in rocky running streams in hot countries. They have a remarkable superficial resemblance to Hepaticæ. Except at the flowering season they are altogether submerged. Specimens should be preserved in spirit as well as dried.

16. *Fungi*.—Take notes of all fleshy fungi, especially as regards colour; the spores should be allowed to fall on paper, and the colour of these noted also. The fleshy species may sometimes be advantageously immersed in spirit before preparing for the herbarium.

17. Examine the fungi which grow on ants' nests, taking care

to get perfect as well as imperfect states, and to secure, if possible, specimens which have not burst their volva.

18. Look out for luminous species, and ascertain whether they are luminous in themselves, or whether the luminosity depends on decomposition.

19. Secure specimens of all esculent or medicinal fungi which are sold in bazaars, noting, if possible, the vernacular name.

20. Note any species of fleshy fungi which arise like the *Pietra Fungaja* from a mass of earth impregnated with mycelium, or from a globose resting-mass.

21. Attend especially to any fungi which attack crops, whether cereal or otherwise; and particularly gather specimens of vine-mildew and potato-mildew, should they be met with. Even common wheat-mildew, smut, &c., should be preserved.

22. In every case note date of collection, soil, and other circumstances relative to particular specimens.

23. Look after those fungi which attack the larvæ of insects.

24. In the case of the *Myxogastres*, sketches should be made on the spot of their general form, with details of microscopic appearance. It would be worth while attempting to preserve specimens for future microscopic examination by means of osmic acid.

25. *Algæ*.—Marine algæ may be found between tide-marks attached to rocks and stones, or rooting in sand, &c.; those in deeper water are got by dredging, and many are cast up after storms; small kinds grow on the larger, and some being like fleshy crusts on stones, shells, &c., must be pared off by means of a knife.

The more delicate kinds, after gentle washing, may be floated in a vessel of fresh water, upon thick and smooth writing or drawing paper; then gently lift out paper and plant together, allow some time to drip; then place on the sea-weed clean linen or cotton cloth, and on it a sheet of absorbent paper, and submit to moderate pressure—many adhere to paper but not to cloth; then change the cloth and absorbent paper till the specimens are dry. Large coarser kinds may be dried in the same way as land-plants; or are to be spread out in the shade, taking care to prevent contact of rain or fresh water of any kind; when sufficiently dry, tie them loosely in any kind of wrapping paper; those preserved in this rough way may be expanded and floated out in water at any time afterwards. A few specimens of each of the more delicate algæ ought to be dried on mica or glass. A note of date and locality ought to be attached to every species.

Delicate slimy algæ are best prepared by floating out on smooth-surfaced paper (known as "sketching paper"), then allowed to drip and dry by simple exposure to currents of air, without pressure.

26. Very little information exists regarding the range of depth of marine plants. It will be very desirable that observations should be made upon this subject, as opportunity from time to time presents itself.

Professor Dickie remarks, and the caution should be borne in mind.—"When the dredge ceases to scrape the bottom, it becomes in its progress to the surface much the same as a towing-net, capturing bodies which are being carried along by currents, and therefore great caution is necessary in reference to any marine plants found in it. Sea-weeds are among the most common of all bodies carried by currents near the surface or at various depths below, and from their nature are very likely to be entangled and brought up."

27. Carefully note and preserve algæ brought up in dredge in moderate depths, under 100 fathoms, or deeper. Preserve specimens attached to shells, corals, &c. which would indicate their being actually *in situ*, and not caught by dredge as it comes up.

28. Examine mud brought up by dredge from different depths for living Diatoms; examine also for the same purpose the stomachs of *Salpæ* and other marine animals.

29. Note algæ on ships, &c. with the submerged parts in a foul condition; also preserve scrapings of coloured crusts or slimy matter, green, brown, &c.

30. Observe algæ floating, collect specimens, noting latitude and longitude, currents, &c.

31. Examine loose floating objects, drift-wood, &c. for algæ. If no prominent species presents itself, preserve scrapings of any coloured crusts. Note as above.

32. It might be useful to have a few moderate-sized pieces of wood, oak, &c. quite clean at first, attached to some part of the vessel under water to be examined, say, monthly. The larger

or shorter prominent algæ should be kept and noted, and crusts on such examined and preserved, with notes of the vessel's course.

33. Various instances have been mentioned by travellers of the coloration of the sea by minute algæ as in the Straits of Malacca by Harvey; any case of this kind would be worth especial attention.

34. The calcareous algæ (*Melobesia*, &c.) are comparatively little known, and are apt to be overlooked.

35. Fresh-water algæ should be collected as occasion presents. Prof. Dickie states that they may be either dried like the marine kinds, or preserved in a fluid composed of 3 parts alcohol, 2 parts water, 1 part glycerine, well mixed.

36. Cases are recorded of the presence of algæ in hot springs. If such are met with, the temperature should be noted and specimens preserved.

IV. Zoological Observations

As the scientific director of the expedition is an accomplished zoologist, and has already had much experience in marine exploration, it will suffice to offer a few suggestions under this head.

The quadrant-like zone of the Pacific, which separates the northern and eastern boundaries of the Polynesian Archipelago (using "Polynesia" in its broadest sense as inclusive of "Micronesia") from the coasts of N. Asia and America, is as little explored from the point of view of the physical geographer as from that of the biologist. It would be a matter of great importance to examine the depth, and the nature of the deep-sea fauna, of this zone by taking a line of soundings and dredgings in its northern half (say between Japan and Vancouver) and in its eastern half (say between Vancouver and Valparaiso). If practicable, it would further be very desirable to explore the littoral fauna of Waihou, Easter Island, or Sala y Gomez, with the view of comparing it critically with that of the west coast of South America.

If H.M.S. *Challenger* passes through Torres Straits, it will be very desirable to examine the littoral fauna of the Papuan shore of the straits in order to compare it with that of the Australian shore. The late Professor Jukes, in his "Voyage of the *Fly*," many years ago, directed attention to this point and to its theoretical bearings.

The hydrographic examination of "Wallace's line" in the Malay archipelago, and of the littoral faunas on the opposite sides of that line, is of great importance, considering the significance of that line as a boundary between two distributional provinces. An additional interest has been given to the exploration of this region by Capt. Chimmoo's recently obtained sounding of 2,800 fathoms in the Celebes Sea, the mud brought up being almost devoid of calcareous organisms, but containing abundant spicula of sponges and radiolaria.

The light from any self-luminous objects met with should be examined with a prism as to its composition. The colours of animals captured should also be examined with a prism, or by aid of the microscopic spectroscope.

V. Concluding Observations

Attention should be paid to the Geology of districts which have not hitherto been examined, and collections of minerals, rocks, and fossils should be made. Detailed suggestions as to the duties of the geologist accompanying the expedition are unnecessary; but it seems desirable that at all shores visited, evidence of recent elevation or subsidence of land should be sought for, and the exact nature of these evidences carefully recorded.

Every opportunity should be taken of obtaining photographs of native races to one scale; and of making such observations as are practicable with regard to their physical characteristics, language, habits, implements, and antiquities. It would be advisable that specimens of hair of unmixed races should in all cases be obtained.

Each station should have a special number associated with it in the regular journal of the day's proceedings, and that number should be noted prominently on everything connected with that station; so that in case of labels being lost or becoming indistinct, or other references failing, the conditions of the dredging or other observations may at once be forthcoming on reference to the number in the journal. All specimens procured should be carefully preserved in spirit or otherwise, and packed in cases with the contents noted to be dealt with in the way which

seems most likely to conduce to the rapid and accurate development of the scientific results of the expedition.

A diary, noting the general proceedings and results of each day, should be kept by the scientific director, with the assistance of his secretary; and each of the members of the scientific staff should be provided with a note-book in which to enter from day to day his observations and proceedings; and he should submit this diary at certain intervals to the scientific director, who would then abstract the results, and incorporate them, along with such additional data as may be supplied by the officers of the ship, in general scientific reports to be sent home to the hydrographer at every available opportunity.

The scientific staff should be provided with an adequate set of books of reference, especially those bearing on perishable objects.

SCIENTIFIC SERIALS

A LARGE portion of the *American Naturalist*, for October, is occupied by Prof. Asa Gray's address at the Dubuque meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, to which we have already alluded. Mr. B. Pickman Mann then concludes his paper on the white coffee-leaf miner (*Crematogaster coffeolum*), a subject of great importance to coffee-growers, treated in an exhaustive manner. Prof. C. F. Hartt, from whom articles on the same subject have already appeared in the *Naturalist*, contributes a further paper on the occurrence of Face-urns in Brazil; and Prof. N. S. Shaler concludes his article on the Geology of the Island of Aquidneck, illustrated by maps and sections; and Mr. C. V. Riley his important article on the cause of Deterioration of Grape-vines.—The November number commences with an article by Mr. J. G. Henderson on some aboriginal relics known as "plummets," which are abundant in various parts of the United States from the Atlantic to the Pacific, with speculations as to their use. Prof. James Orton continues his contributions to the Natural History of the Valley of Quito, the present article being devoted to the Articulata and Plants; in the latter department the author notices the similarity of the features of the flora of the Andes to those recorded by Kerner in the Tyrolean Alps. Mr. R. Ridgway commences some Notes on the Vegetation of the Lower Wabash Valley, with an account of the Forests of the Bottom-lands. Mr. Samuel H. Scudder, in an article on Fossil Insects from the Rocky Mountains, records nearly 40 species, belonging to nearly all the principal groups, found in Tertiary deposits. Prof. Cope, in a paper read at Dubuque, discusses the geological age of the Coal of Wyoming, which he refers without doubt to the Cretaceous period. Prof. Shaler has a short note on the effects of extraordinary seasons on the distribution of Animals and Plants.—In the number for December we find a short article by the Rev. Samuel Lockwood on the Baltimore Oriole and Carpenter-bee, followed by a continuation of Mr. Ridgway's notes on the Vegetation of the Lower Wabash Valley, treating of the Peculiar Features of the Bottom-lands. This is followed by an interesting account of the Alpine Flora of Colorado, by the Rev. E. L. Greene; and Dr. J. W. Foster then contributes an abstract of a paper read at Dubuque on certain peculiarities in the Crania of the Mound-builders, illustrated with drawings. Another Dubuque paper of a speculative character is by Dr. H. Harts-horne, on the relation between organic vigour and sex; and Prof. Shaler then gives a further instalment of his paper on the Geology of Aquidneck. In all these three numbers is the usual amount of Reviews, and interesting short paragraphs and notes.

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES

LONDON

Royal Society, Jan. 23.—Dr. Stenhouse read a paper, "Contributions to the History of the Orcins.—No. III. Amido-derivatives of Orcin." He has confined his investigations to an examination of the products obtained from Trinitro-orcinic acid.

Amido-diimido-orcin, $C_7H_5(NH_2)(NH)_2O_2$.—This compound, which has the properties of a base, is formed by the oxidation of triamido-orcin, and is most conveniently obtained in a pure state by decomposing a solution of the acetate with a slight excess of ammonia. The most advantageous method of preparing the base is to reduce trinitro-orcin with sodium-amalgam, and to